

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/843,387

Applicant(s)

DIMITRI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Pierre-Michel Bataille

2186

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/13/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-14.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓ | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 4-14 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the present invention features: A hard disk drive library system comprising: a first plurality of hard disk drive storage slots; a first plurality of backplane connectors; a first plurality of hard disk drives removably disposed within said first plurality of hard disk drive storage slots, wherein each of said first plurality of hard disk drives is in physical and electrical contact with one of said first plurality of backplane connectors; a power source which supplies power to each of said first plurality of backplane connectors; and a controller, wherein said controller provides information to each of said first plurality of hard disk drives, and display devices connected to said power source.
3. Closed reference teaching: US 6,098,146 (Bouvier et al) Bouvier teaches a hard disk library or SSA storage system, comprising: a plurality of storage drive bays, a plurality of backplane storage connectors; a plurality of hard disk drives or SSA storage target drive insertably mounted in a corresponding disk bay included in the disk pod, wherein each of said first plurality of hard disk drives is in an electrical contact with disk pod housing receiving electrical power from the backplane; power source lines providing

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power to the drive bays; and a microcontroller which provides first information to each of said first plurality of hard disk drives.

4. However, neither Bouvier nor the other cited references teaches or render obvious, as recited in claim 13:

a first plurality of communication links, wherein one of said first plurality of communication links connects one of a first plurality of backplane connectors with one of a first plurality of read/write encoders; a second plurality of communication links, wherein one of said second plurality of communication links connects one of said first plurality of read/write encoders to a first switch; a controller, wherein said controller is connected to said switch by a third communication link; and one or a plurality of first external servers; one or a plurality of fourth communication links, wherein one of said one or a plurality of fourth communication links connects each of said one or a plurality of first external servers to said first switch.

Or as recited in claim 4:

a first storage wall having a front and a back, a top and a bottom, and a first side and an opposing second side, wherein first plurality of storage slots are disposed within said first storage wall; a utilities module having a front and a back, a top and a bottom, and a first side and an opposing second side, wherein said back of said first storage wall is disposed

adjacent said front of said utilities module; and wherein each of a first plurality of backplane connectors is disposed on said front of said utilities module; wherein a power supply module is disposed adjacent said bottom of said first structure and adjacent said bottom of said utilities module.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

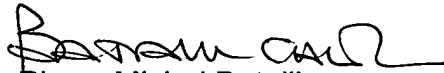
Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre-Michel Bataille whose telephone number is (571) 272-4178. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (9:30A to 6:00P).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew M. Kim can be reached on (703) 305-3821. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Pierre-Michel Bataille
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2186

October 30, 2004

**PIERRE BATAILLE
PRIMARY EXAMINER**